

"SIR" HARRY WESTWOOD COOPER WEDS MISSIONARY WHILE IN JAIL.

Noted Forger Prevails Upon Mrs. Tressa M. Van Velden to Assume His Name, With Its Many Aliases, for Better or for Worse—She Is a Worker in Gospel Mission, and Her Marriage Is One of the Most Unique Events of Its Kind on Record—Prisoner Declares That He Will Devote the Rest of His Life to Religious Work.



"SIR" HARRY WESTWOOD COOPER AND MRS. TRESSA MAY VAN VELDEN. Who were married in the county jail, where Cooper is now confined on a charge of perjury. Cooper was married under the name of Chadwick.

In spite of the fact that he is booked for ten years at San Quentin, in spite of the shameful record of his past and the dismal prospects of his future, this man of many names and many wives, this notorious criminal, ex-convict, present jailbird, has found one more woman willing to marry him.

BRIDE WAS A WIDOW.

She was Mrs. Tressa M. Van Velden, widow, age 37, according to her application for the marriage license. And now she belongs herself to be "Mrs. Ernest Moore Chadwick."

She is a worker in a "gospel mission," one of these detached and undemonstrative missions that spring and flourish and decay like toadstool growths. It was in the prosecution of her work of soul-saving in the jail that she met and loved—"Sir" Harry Westwood Cooper. The courtship was carried on in the jail while the lady in the case was, presumably, leading "Sir" Harry to the straight and narrow path that leads to salvation. She had a permit to visit "Sir" Harry, a permit made out in the name of Mrs. Tressa Van Velden, and it was through this permit that the matrimonial knot got cut of the missionary bag.

When she made her customary call to see Cooper, she presented the permit with the name of Van Velden erased and "Mrs. Ernest Moore Chadwick" inserted in its stead. Chief Jailer Frank Cornyn asked about the change.

"I am now," said the lady, with downcast eyes and becoming humility, not unmixed with satisfaction, Mr. Chadwick's ex-ah—the prisoner's wife.

"How," Chief Jailer Cornyn gasped, al-

most shouted, "how the h— did that happen?"

And perhaps Chief Jailer Cornyn's explosive surprise was pardonable.

"Why," said the missionary lady with explanatory meekness, "we were married Sunday—here—in jail—when we, our mission, were making our visit to the prisoners."

THE NEXT DAY, SHE OBTAINED LICENSE

The missionary lady, bride-elect had attempted to all the business part of matrimony. She went to the City Hall and got the license, giving the groom's name as Ernest M. Chadwick, his age as 34 and his residence as 1234 Mission street, the same as hers.

The next day, when the hand of missionaries of the Church of God, which has neither ritual nor officers, were admitted to the prison to sing their songs and distribute their tracts to the prisoners the marriage ceremony was surreptitiously gone through with. Cooper was not released from his cell, and while the missionaries were making their rounds a stop was made in front of his cell, and right under the unsuspecting eyes of Guards Metzger and Jerry Ward the prisoner and the missionary lady were made one in double-quick time.

To the naked eye there appeared nothing unusual in the stop. Handshaking is customary. Cooper put a hand through the bars. His bride grasped it. The Reverend Mr. Montgomery asked without any unnecessary delay: "Will you take this man to be your wedded husband? Will you take this woman to be your wedded wife?" The

San Francisco, May 2.—"Sir" Harry Westwood Cooper is a bridegroom again.

Once more—has his penchant for matrimony been indulged.

He was married in the Broadway Jail to his death (known) wife. He was married surreptitiously, clandestinely, quite unbeknownst to his jailers and the authorities—married right under their noses; in fact, without arousing their suspicions. In the most novel and original manner he achieved an elopement, so far as it is possible for a man locked in a prison cell to achieve an elopement.

"Sir" Harry Westwood Cooper, or as he at present prefers to be called, Ernest Moore Chadwick, has for the past two years been languishing in the Broadway Jail—trying to escape—because of his fifth, and it is generally and fondly believed his last, matrimonial venture, because of his weakness for acquiring new wives without the formality of divorce or the intervention of death in the case of the already acquired wives.

Locked fast in jail, it was generally supposed that his polygamous tendencies were quibled, but with him the marrying habit is second nature. When ennuis oppresses the Englishman he says: "Let's go out and kill something," but when the self-enamored and variously involved "Sir" Harry is beset with ennui and finds living a beastly bore, he has to go out and marry somebody. And when he can't get out—well, he reverts the relation of Mahomet and the mountain.

When the impulse to marry is on him then, indeed.

So, in spite of the fact that he is in jail,



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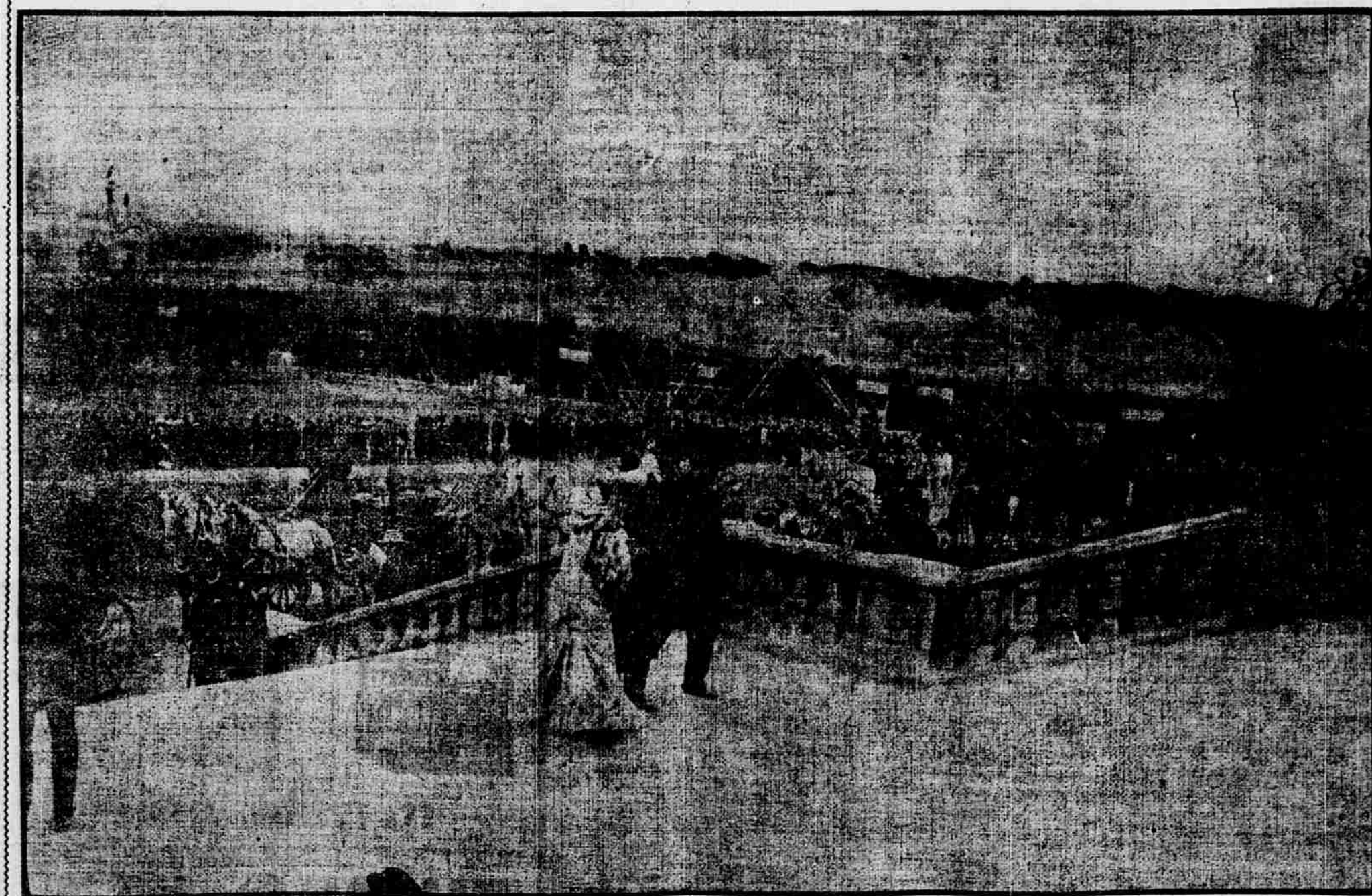
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Good Axminster Carpet, per yard... **80c**

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interested parties quickly assented and the thing was done.

Cooper says he is going to devote his life to the saving of souls, to the work of a missionary beside his wife—his new wife.

"We were married," he says, "because it is God's will. The suggestion of the marriage came from the congregation. I have been living a new life for the past seven months—since I first met my—ah, my wife. I knew we were going to be married some time, but I did not know when. Then I received a note telling me that the wedding had been arranged."

COOPER'S RECORD.

Cooper, with his usual disregard to detail in marrying, doesn't know whether the minister who married them was ordained, and he doesn't know if there is going to be a marriage certificate or not.

The wife has nothing to say about the wedding.

"No," would say Cooper's new mother-in-law, "there is no such person as Mrs. Van Velden—as Mrs. Cooper—I don't know."

where the is. Then desperately, "and she won't see you anyhow, and we have nothing to say. We just won't talk about it—that's all."

Two years ago Cooper, only a short time out of San Quentin, married and carried away Norine Pearl Schneider, a beautiful confiding young girl from Cuckett. He was sentenced to ten years in San Quentin for forging a telegram to the girl's mother in order to get her to marry him, and was indicted after that for perjury himself, and is now in the county jail because sentence was suspended on appeal.

While in San Quentin serving sentence for a former crime he was the chief conspirator in a plot to break jail, and was regarded as a cunning and dangerous criminal. He exposed the conspiracy with the hope of currying favor with the prison officials and brought upon his conspirators heavy punishment.

Conditions Unfavorable.

"What would be the prospect for starting

a secret society here?" asked the enterprising traveler in the far North.

"Speaking for myself," replied the Baklino, "it wouldn't work. We have only one night in the year, and of course, I have to give that to my club."—Chicago Tribune.

VALLEY RAILROAD TRANSFER.

St. Louis and Iron Mountain Files Deed in Clayton.

A deed transferring the property of the St. Louis Valley Railway Company, an Illinois corporation, to the St. Louis, Iron Mountain and Southern Railway Company, was filed in the Recorder's office in Clayton yesterday. As a consideration for the transfer the grantee assumes the first mortgage debt of the grantor. The mortgage is held by the St. Louis Trust Company, and is dated July 1, 1891.

The deed recited that the Iron Mountain owned or controlled the capital stock of the St. Louis Valley Company, and that a resolution authorizing its purchase was passed at a meeting of the Iron Mountain directors February 18, 1903.

The St. Louis Valley road runs from East St. Louis through the counties of Monroe, Randolph, Jackson, Union and Alexander in Cairo. There is a branch running from this point to the connection of the Southern Illinois and Missouri Bridge Company at Thebes, Ill., and another branch running from Fordyce to the north line of Williamson County.

Warrants deeded to St. Louis County, and estate from C. G. Warner and Eugene S. Cronk, delivered to the St. Louis Valley Company and in turn by them to the Iron Mountain, were also filed in the Recorder's office yesterday.

ORDERS WAR TAX REFUND

American Sugar Refinery to Recover \$200,000.

Newark, N. J., May 2.—Judge Andrew Kirkpatrick, in the United States Court, today filed an opinion in the suit of the American Sugar Refining Company against Rutan and H. C. Hersold, collectors of internal revenue for the New Jersey district. The refinery asked to recover \$200,000 collected as a war tax in the operations of the act of June 14, 1898.

The plaintiff claim that the taxes were illegally assessed, the material taxes not being subject to taxation under the law. Judge Kirkpatrick decided in favor of the refinery and the tax collected will have to be returned.

Other companies have similar suits pending for amounts aggregating more than \$1,000,000.

Family Likeness.

"Children, children," cried Mrs. Brown, distractedly. "Why is it you cannot settle a minute without quarreling?"

"I don't know, mamma," replied little Susie, gravely, "and it's the Golden Rule like papa and I'm like you."—Kansas City Star.



Love is unreasonably yoked with sickness. Labor is lightened by love, but love cannot lighten pain or relieve it. Many a man looks on at his wife's suffering, willing to do anything to aid her and able to do nothing.

Sometimes, however, the husband's attention is directed to Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription and its remarkable cures of womanly diseases. He may not have much hope of a cure, but he is led to try the medicine, with the result that in almost every case there is a perfect and permanent cure.

Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription cures irregularity. It drives the drains, which weaken women, heals inflammation and ulceration, and cures female weakness.

As a tonic for women who are nervous, sleepless, worn-out and run-down "Favorite Prescription" is unequalled.

"In answer to your letter I will say, we commenced to complain twenty years ago," writes Lewis A. Miller, ex-Chief of Police of St. Joseph, Mo. "We have tried the skill of twelve different doctors. She took gallons of medicine during the time she was ill, until I wrote to you and you told us what to do. She has taken eight bottles of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription and she is now as well as ever. She can do her own work now and can wait around again and is quite smart."

"Favorite Prescription" has the testimony of many thousands of women to its complete cure of womanly diseases. Do not accept an unknown and unproved substitute in its place.

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